

3.6 TENNESSEE RIVER BASIN NOLICHUCKY RIVER



DESCRIPTION and EXTENT OF PROBLEM

According to the 1998 303(d) List, the following watersheds are impaired.

1998 303(d) LIST

WATERSHED NAME

Big Limestone Creek

Lick Creek

Pigeon Creek

Sinking Creek

Flat Creek

Meadow Creek

Dry Creek

SOURCES

nutrients/agriculture
suspended solids/agriculture
pathogens/agriculture
siltation/agriculture
nutrients/agriculture
pathogens/agriculture
pathogens/agriculture
siltation/agriculture
nutrients/agriculture
nutrients/siltation
pathogens
habitat alteration/siltation

SUBWATERSHED ROTATIONAL PLAN

The Nolichucky River subwatersheds are currently receiving EQIP rather than 319 funding. The possibility of addressing additional agricultural problems in these subwatersheds with 319 funding remains strong. As is common in most of the UWA watersheds, agricultural BMP activity is more advanced than other nonpoint source issues.

The watershed partners will be consulted and a subwatershed will be selected for a UWA project, in advance of the FY 2001 incremental grant work plan.

COOPERATING PARTNERS

Partners

Appalachian RC&D Council
Greene County government
Washington County government
Local landowners
Local soil conservation districts
Smoky Mt. RC&D Council
Tennessee Department of Agriculture
Ag Resources Conservation Program
Tennessee Department of Environment & Conservation
 Division of Water Pollution Control
 Division of Water Supply
 Ground Water Management Section
Tennessee Department of Health
 Division of Lab Services

Abbreviations

RC&D

SCDs
RC&D

TDA-ARC

TDEC-WPC

TDEC-DWS-GWMS

TDH-DLS

3.6 TENNESSEE RIVER BASIN NOLICHUCKY RIVER



Tennessee Parks & Greenways Foundation	TP&GF
Tennessee Wildlife Resource Agency	TWRA
Tennessee Valley Authority	TVA
Resource Stewardship Watershed Team Program	
U.S. Army Corps of Engineers	USACE
U.S. Department of Agriculture	
Natural Resource Conservation Service	USDA-NRCS
U.S. Department of Interior	
Fish & Wildlife Services	US F&WS
Geological Survey	USGS
U.T. Institute of Agriculture	UTIA
U.T. County Technical Assistance Service	UT-CTAS

Appalachian RC&D Council

The local RC&D Council will manage the project as well as BMP implementation and public awareness. The RC&Ds ability in these areas will be crucial to the generation of projects now and in the future.

Greene & Washington County governments

As Greene and Washington counties residential and commercial growth continues to take the remaining farmlands of the Nolichucky River watershed, its officials and residents will need to remain aware of and protect the existing Ag-related remediation work already in place. More importantly, government officials need to assume a leadership role in the nps effort by establishing water quality control measures for all construction sites and stormwater problem areas as growth continues.

Local landowners

Landowners will be requested to participate in the implementation of BMPs by allowing the BMP to be placed on their property, contributing to the construction of the BMP through in-kind services, and maintaining the BMP for a pre-determined or indefinite period of time. These same landowners will also be required to allow others to visit the BMP once it has been fully constructed.

Local Soil Conservation District (SCD)

The SCD is a partner in the effort to reduce nonpoint source pollution to the local waters. The SCD, as a primary state contractor, can provide a significant amount of financial assistance to local water quality efforts. Through its direct interaction with the local NRCS district conservationist, the SCD can also direct technical as well as administrative assistance to local water quality projects. The SCD also serves as a leader in the effort to increase water quality education of the local citizens and operators.

Smoky Mt. RC&D Council

The local RC&D Council will manage the project as well as BMP implementation and public awareness. The RC&Ds ability in these areas will be crucial to the generation of projects now and in the future.

3.6 TENNESSEE RIVER BASIN NOLICHUCKY RIVER



Tennessee Parks & Greenways Foundation

The Tennessee Parks & Greenways Foundation (TP&GF) is active in acquiring lands along streams throughout the state. By acquiring land along the streams, it can apply riparian restoration efforts to these areas, thereby providing water quality and habitat benefits to the stream. TP&GF has already acquired lands along streams in the Nolichucky River watershed and could be of assistance to local water quality partnerships.

U.S. Army Corps of Engineers

The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers has completed a reconnaissance study in the Nolichucky River watershed to evaluate the presence of natural resources and what it would require to maintain and improve them. This kind of information would be very useful to any project that might occur in the watershed. The USACE also has the ability of initiating Water Resources: Reconnaissance Studies which could look into the remediation of flooding conditions through applying BMPs in the headwaters of the watershed.

USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS)

The USDA-NRCS has two active Public Law 566 (Watershed Protection and Flood Prevention Act) water quality projects on-going in the Lick Creek and Big Limestone Creek watersheds in Greene and Washington counties. NRCS District Conservationists and the local SCDs are contracting with private landowners to apply BMPs to address sedimentation, nutrient loading, and bacteria concerns on agricultural land.

CURRENT 319 PROJECTS

FY-96	Nolichucky River Pesticide Awareness Project	App. RC&D
-------	--	-----------

CURRENT MONITORING & ASSESSMENT

TDEC-WPC five-year watershed management approach
TDH-DLS pre- and post- BMP monitoring

MEASURES OF SUCCESS

- UWA projects have been implemented in all 303(d) listed subwatersheds with a large portion of the required pollutant source sites having been addressed.
- Post BMP implementation monitoring results are indicating an overall improvement of the water quality of the streams directly affected by BMP implementation.
- The subwatersheds once 303(d) listed have been removed due to sufficient water quality improvements.

**3.6 TENNESSEE RIVER BASIN
NOLICHUCKY RIVER**



MILESTONES

Long Term Goal 1.

Hold regularly scheduled meetings with stakeholders, to create new partnerships, strengthen existing partnerships and to foster greater trust, commitment and accountability.

- **Action:** Conduct an annual priority watershed partners meeting for project coordination.
Lead: TDA-NPS Program
Key Partners: TDEC-WPC; USDA-NRCS; TDH-DLS; local governments
Year(s): 2001-2005
- **Action:** Develop a Watershed Restoration Action Strategy.
Lead: TDA-NPS Program
Key Partners: TDEC-WPC; USDA-NRCS; TDEC-DWS-GWMS
Year(s): 2001

Long Term Goal 3.

Restore all waters impaired by nonpoint sources that are listed on the 1998 303(d) List to the condition of fully supporting their designated uses by 2015, in cooperation with local, state and federal partners.

- **Action:** Twenty percent of the needed BMPs will have been installed in the Nolichucky River watershed.
Lead: USDA-NRCS; SCD and RC&D
Key Partners: TDA-NPS Program
Year(s): 2005
- **Action:** One hundred percent of the needed agricultural BMPs will have been implemented in the Nolichucky River subwatersheds.
Lead: USDA-NRCS; RC&D; SCD
Key Partners: TDA-NPS Program
Year(s): 2005

Long Term Goal 5.

Improve the knowledge of stakeholders and citizens concerning the origins, magnitude, and prevention of nonpoint source pollution.

- **Action:** Develop at least two educational projects to educate the local citizens, landowners, and elected officials in the Nolichucky River subwatersheds.
Lead: TDA-NPS Program
Key Partner: TDEC-WPC; USDA-NRCS; SCD; TVA
Year(s): 2005

**3.6 TENNESSEE RIVER BASIN
NOLICHUCKY RIVER**



Long Term Goal 7.

Use the maximum allowable percentage of funding annually to assist partners with water quality monitoring and assessment, for the duration of the 319 program.

- **Action:** One hundred percent of the pre-BMP implementation monitoring will have been completed in the Nolichucky River subwatersheds.
Lead: TDEC-WPC and TDH-DLS
Key Partners: TDA-NPS Program
Year(s): 2005
- **Action:** The water quality of the Nolichucky River subwatersheds will be improved.
Lead: TDEC-WPC
Key Partners: TDH-LDS and TDA-NPS Program
Year(s): 2005